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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Senior Pastor J. Heinrich Arnold, Bruderhof Church Communities, Rifton, New York, offered the following prayer:

Lord our God, we lift up thanks and praise to You this day, for the beauty of this Earth, Your creation, for people of all lands and cultures, for our country and Nation, its founding values defending human dignity, liberty, and justice for all.

We pray for all the Members of this House of Representatives and for all who walk and work these storied Chambers, hallways, and offices of our government, all servants of the people, and of You our God.

Grant them wisdom, patience, understanding, determination, and hearts of love and self-sacrifice in order to make good law, uphold the Constitution, and legislate for the flourishing, unity, and strength of our people and country; to lead all nations in efforts of justice, peace, good will, and generosity to neighbors and even enemies.

Forgive us our faults, and heal our fractured world.

This we pray in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING SENIOR PASTOR J. HEINRICH ARNOLD

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome and thank today's guest chaplain, Pastor Heinrich Arnold, representing the Bruderhof community in New York's 18th District.

Over a century ago, the founders of the Bruderhof were exiled from Germany for their refusal to fight for the Nazis. They eventually found refuge and freedom here in America.

Today, the Hudson Valley is proud to be the home to almost half of the worldwide community of Bruderhof members. They have continued their practice to lead a much simpler life, focused on family, faith, and selfless service, and their example has served and inspired our entire community.

Pastor Arnold's leadership extends far beyond his role as senior pastor for the Bruderhof communities. He also serves as chaplain for our Ulster County Sheriff's Department and as a teacher at the Woodcrest Elementary School. He has dedicated his life's work to speaking about forgiveness and reconciliation through the Breaking the Cycle of Violence program. His efforts in over a dozen countries and right in our own community have been remarkable to follow.

At a time where our country faces such great division, I am thankful for Pastor Arnold and the entire Bruderhof community for presenting this prayer today, blessing our government as we prepare to make critical decisions in the days to come.

I ask all of us to recenter ourselves and work together on these critical issues laid out before us. As the Bruderhof believe, when you truly love your neighbor as yourself, peace and justice become a reality.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING JACK MILLER, A PATRIOT

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Jack Miller, an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and champion of civic education.

He founded the Jack Miller Center, a nonpartisan, nonprofit dedicated to reinvigorating education in America's founding principles and history, an education vital to thoughtful and engaged citizenship.

He recognized that the future leaders of our Nation lack a fundamental understanding of the founding principles of our Republic as well as our history.

Madam Speaker, we can agree that Mr. MILLER's endeavor is of paramount importance, and it underscores a serious demand that we prepare future generations of Americans to become both informed and engaged citizens.

Thank you, Mr. MILLER, for your continued work in ensuring that America's bedrock principles remain alive and revered.

IN MEMORY OF SAKAYE ARATANI

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a profound loss in the Japanese-American community, the passing of Sakaye Aratani.

Her death coincides with an ever-dwindling number of adult Japanese-Americans, who endured the injustice of being forcibly removed from their homes and imprisoned in World War II internment camps here in the United States.

She and her late husband, George Aratani, made a remarkable, successful post-war journey in business and became important philanthropic figures within the Japanese-American community and beyond.

Every year, I would see her at community gatherings for various Japanese-American organizations that she and her husband supported, and, every year, I was struck by her grace, elegance, and intelligence.

My heart goes out to the Aratani family, and I join with the rest of the Japanese-American community in mourning her passing.

PRAYING FOR THE RETURN OF THE MOUNTAIN GATEWAY MINISTRIES PASTORS

(Mr. MOORE of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, evangelists with Mountain Gateway Ministries have worked across the country doing disaster recovery, providing food, clothing, and planting churches with the support and assistance of the Nicaraguan Government.

Americans and their Nicaraguan counterparts associated with Mountain Gateway have made it their mission to spread the hope of the Gospel to the Nicaraguan people for nearly 30 years.

In January, the attorney general of the Nicaraguan Government began pursuing charges against 3 U.S. citizens associated with Mountain Gateway and 11 of the Gateway Nicaraguan pastors on trumped-up charges of money laundering and organized crime. Since then, 11 pastors have been charged with up to 15 years in prison and a combined \$1 billion in fines.

These pastors were working to bless the people of Nicaragua, and now all their personal property has been seized. They have no legal representation, which is a violation of their human rights.

These sentences leave families without income, children without mothers and fathers, simply for sharing the good news of Jesus.

I am deeply concerned these citizens and pastors are being targeted for sharing their faith. I ask the Nicaraguan Government to release the imprisoned pastors immediately.

Matthew 5:10 says: "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven."

I am praying for a swift resolution to the persecution of these pastors and that they be safely returned.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BOBBY ALLEN

(Mr. GOTTHEIMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bobby Allen. Bobby was one of Jersey's best, a hero who put others first as a firefighter and an advocate for his brothers and sisters of labor. He recently passed away after a valiant fight with cancer.

Bobby started his career with the Paterson Fire Department in 1992. He was among the brave first responders on September 11.

In recent years, he became a labor leader, serving as president of FMBA Local 2 and chairman of NJFMBA's legislative committee for more than a decade.

Bobby will live on through his beloved relationships and big personality and those who loved him in the firefighter community, his family, of course, all of his friends, and the legislation he championed, which improved the lives of thousands of career firefighters and retirees. Because of his advocacy for the FIRE Act, firefighters nationwide are safer and better equipped to protect our communities.

As we mourn the loss of Bobby Allen, we think of his wife, Marianne; his parents, retired Paterson Battalion Chief Edward Allen and Peggy; and his many other friends and family members.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Bobby Allen.

CLOSE THE DE MINIMIS TARIFF LOOPHOLE

(Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today, 14 U.S. textile manufacturing plants stand idle, and much of the rest of American manufacturing is endangered by a new threat from China that this Congress could end at a stroke.

In just the last 2 years, roughly, Chinese online marketplaces have exploded in size, selling cheap goods at dumping prices into the American market.

What is causing this? Well, they learned to exploit fully the de minimis tariff loophole. In 2023, nearly a billion packages entered the U.S. through the \$800 de minimis loophole, nearly 4 million individual shipments per day. That is not de minimis business. It is big money.

Chinese companies Temu and Shein alone account for roughly one-third of all de minimis shipments. Temu ap-

peared on the American scene only in 2022, Shein not much earlier. You can go buy sneakers on Temu for \$5, and a sweater for \$7. Temu reportedly loses \$30 per order in a deliberate strategy to flood the U.S. market with cheap crap and move toward market dominance. It is not only textiles.

We should close this loophole today.

PEACE

(Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, together we are witness to war in the Middle East, yet so many of us are divided in our righteous anger and desire for peace.

At home, I speak with friends and family and constituents who want what is just. Nevertheless, I also see how we speak past each other, missing the common humanity of both Israelis and Palestinians, the innocent people on both sides who work, live, and play on lands now ravaged and scarred by war.

Let me be clear. I condemn Hamas, yet I decry Mr. Netanyahu's prosecution of this war. That is why I called for a bilateral cease-fire and a release of all remaining hostages in February.

I hold both beliefs, not as an equivalence or political spin, but as a principle to stand with the innocent, with Palestinians and Israelis who must know peace and security in their lifetime.

We must reject the far too tempting politics of hate and division and embrace the duty of peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

In time warped by hate, I lean on my faith, the wisdom of the Beatitudes: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

□ 0915

CELEBRATING WORLD WAR II VETERAN ELMER COCKE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. GOOD of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize World War II veteran Elmer Cocke of Danville, Virginia, who recently turned 100 years old.

After finishing high school, Elmer joined the U.S. Maritime Service Radio School. He underwent his training in New York and Massachusetts, learned Morse code, and was promoted to warrant officer.

In 1945, he joined the *William J. Palmer*, a Liberty ship carrying the products of the "Arsenal of Democracy" to American forces and Allies around the world.

When sailing across the Mediterranean in 1945, the *William J. Palmer* struck a mine in the Adriatic Sea.

Elmer jumped into action, helping make way for a lifeboat to detach from the sinking ship.

The entire crew boarded a rescue ship and was taken to Italy with no crewmembers lost. Elmer headed back to New York and again to another Liberty ship going to France to transport hundreds of victorious American soldiers back home.

Elmer was discharged in 1946, and returned to his wife, Hilda, and their Gretna farm.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary veterans of Virginia's Fifth District like Elmer Cocke, a living picture of the courage and patriotism that have kept our Nation free.

RECOGNIZING THE COURAGE AND BRAVERY OF CAPTAIN RILEY COON

(Ms. TOKUDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TOKUDA. Madam Speaker, on August 8, 2023, there were many heroes who exhibited courage and bravery as wildfires ravaged Maui and Hawaii Island.

Today, it is my honor to recognize one of those heroes, Captain Riley Coon, a third-generation mariner and co-owner of one of Maui's oldest family boating companies, Trilogy Excursions.

When the Coast Guard called for help, Riley and six other Trilogy captain and crewmembers answered the call, rescuing countless people who had jumped into the ocean to escape the flames, and transporting them to safety.

Battling 80-mile-per-hour winds, intense heat, and smoke, Riley saved lives as they conducted emergency rescues throughout the night and into the next morning.

For his courageous efforts, the Congressional Medal of Honor Society selected Riley from over 200 nominees nationwide as the 2024 Single Act of Heroism Honoree.

It is an award that is much deserved, and it serves as a reminder of the many everyday people who stepped forward and became heroes on those fateful days.

So, today, in addition to recognizing Riley, let us lift up and celebrate all of our heroes who risked life and limb and ran toward the flames to save the people and places they love.

CONDEMNING IRAN'S UNPRECEDENTED DRONE AND MISSILE ATTACK ON ISRAEL

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1149, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 1143) condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1149, the resolution is considered read.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1143

Whereas, beginning on April 13, 2024, Iran for the first time ever launched a direct attack on Israel that included over 350 missiles and drones launched directly from Iran and its proxies toward Israel;

Whereas this direct attack on Israel followed: Iran-backed Hamas' massive, unprovoked attack on Israel on October 7 that killed over 1,200 people; months of cross-border attacks from Iran-backed Hezbollah into Israel from Lebanon; over 170 attacks on United States troops in the Middle East by Iran-backed militias since October; and months of Iran-backed Houthi missile and drone attacks on global shipping;

Whereas 99 percent of the projectiles fired at Israel were intercepted by Israel, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Jordan, minimizing casualties and other damage from this unprecedented, brazen attack by Iran;

Whereas Israel intercepted these missiles and drones using a variety of air defense systems and other defense articles, including many procured from or co-produced with the United States, demonstrating the vital importance of the United States and Israel's security partnership; and

Whereas Israel is a major non-NATO ally and Major Strategic Partner of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel;

(2) reaffirms and supports Israel's right to self-defense;

(3) stands with Israel as it defends itself against Iran's attack and seeks to re-establish deterrence against Iran and its proxies;

(4) fully supports Israel's right to respond to this aggression through military, diplomatic, economic, and other necessary means;

(5) calls on all countries to unequivocally condemn Iran's attack on Israel;

(6) commends the United States military, the United Kingdom, France, and Jordan for intercepting Iranian missiles and drones and thereby limiting the damage from this unprecedented attack on Israel;

(7) reaffirms the United States commitment to Israel's security, including through security assistance and defense sales;

(8) urges full enforcement of United States sanctions and export controls against Iran to impede Iran's nuclear program, missile and drone development, and funding of terrorist groups and proxies, including Hezbollah, Hamas and Palestine Islamic Jihad, the Houthis, and militias in Iraq and Syria; and

(9) stands ready to assist Israel with emergency resupply and other security, diplomatic, and intelligence support.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees.

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KEAN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KEAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that

all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, over the weekend, the world watched in horror as Iran launched over 350 drones and missiles at our ally and friend, Israel.

This attack confirmed our worst fears. The likely attack was openly discussed in the media for days before it occurred. For years, Iran had been threatening Israel and amassing a terrifying arsenal of missiles and drones. No one should have had any doubt that one day Iran would fulfill its longstanding threat of "death to Israel."

However, the fact that this unprecedented, escalatory attack was long expected does not make it any less terrifying. Were it not for close coordination between Israel, the United States, and other partners to successfully intercept these weapons, Israel and other countries in the region could have faced significant casualties and major damage.

Over the last 7 months, we have seen Iran's poisonous influence rip apart the Middle East. Iran-backed Hamas launched the massive, unprovoked October 7 attack on Israel that killed over 1,200 people. Hezbollah has fired thousands of rockets, mortars, and missiles into Israel. Iran-backed militias have launched over 170 attacks on American troops in the Middle East, and the Iran-backed Houthis have launched over 100 missiles and drone attacks on global shipping.

This is not just a threat to Israel. This is a threat to the United States and to all of our partners in the Middle East.

That is why this moment is of such tremendous strategic importance. Iran's proxies are testing the resolve of Israel, the United States, and the international community. We absolutely must restore deterrence against Iran to protect our vital national security interests in the Middle East. That means standing shoulder to shoulder with our friend and ally, Israel.

We are stronger together. Together, this coalition literally shot missiles and drones out of the sky, protecting cities and citizens alike.

Like some of my colleagues over the Easter recess, my wife, Rhonda, and I traveled to Israel and were able to see firsthand the impacts of the conflict on the people there. The resolve of the Israeli people is stronger than ever.

H. Res. 1143 makes a simple, clear statement that we stand with Israel and support Israel's right to defend itself and to restore deterrence, including by responding to this attack as appropriate. It also makes clear that our longstanding commitment to Israel's

security, including through arms sales and security assistance, is ironclad. Finally, it urges full enforcement of all of our sanctions against Iran and its proxies.

Madam Speaker, we must not forget that what Israel experienced over the weekend is, unfortunately, a reality of everyday life in Ukraine. Our adversaries are working closer together than ever before to undermine the American-led international order that has kept peace in the world since the Second World War.

Before the United States ultimately joined the war, Winston Churchill showed the world the fortitude to look into the face of authoritarianism. He declared that democracies of the world stand up for their beliefs, and they would endure.

We must project that same message today and in the future. Our allies and our partners are watching what actions this body takes. We must project that Churchillian confidence.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the gentleman from New Jersey's resolution, H. Res. 1143, condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel.

Like every Member of this body, I am horrified by Iran's direct attack on Israel.

In retaliation for Israel's targeted strike against two Iranian military generals in Damascus on April 1, Iran launched more than 300 drones and powerful missiles at Israel's population—Jews, Muslims, and Christians alike.

The great success of Israel's missile shield, codeveloped by the United States of America, and the combined forces of the U.S. military, France, the U.K., and Jordan, prevented significant death and destruction.

Our thoughts and hearts are with the young Israeli Bedouin girl, who is recovering today from injuries she suffered due to an Iranian projectile.

I stand strongly with the people of Israel and their defense against both direct and proxy Iranian attacks, and I support this resolution being offered by Representative KEAN.

Israel, of course, has the right to defend itself like any other country, but as a true friend of Israel, I encourage the Israeli Government to be smart and strategic as it considers its response, and I urge this body not to beat the drums of war.

As Secretary Blinken recently said, an escalation of the conflict is not in the United States' or Israel's interests.

Believe me, I really understand the rage felt by Israel toward the Government of Iran, a government hell-bent on wiping Israel off the map. The two generals whom Israel eliminated worked day and night to provide Iranian proxies the lethal materiel and strategy necessary to significantly harm the State of Israel.

I also understand the need for Israel to maintain strategic deterrence. Iran needs to know there will be serious consequences if it attempts to harm Israel. Deterrence serves to prevent an expansion of conflict.

I also understand the massive consequences of Israel and Iran descending into a broader war and what that would mean for the United States and the rest of the entire world. An expanded Israel-Iran war would distract from the ongoing conflict in Gaza, a conflict that must end, while ensuring the elimination of Hamas' military capabilities.

We still have challenges. We must free the hostages remaining in Gaza and achieve a humanitarian cease-fire. Famine and the current humanitarian catastrophe must be reversed at all costs. There must be a realistic plan for the future governance and reconstruction of Gaza, one that results in Palestinian control of the strip.

An expanded Israel-Iran war could also serve to drag the United States of America deeper into the conflict. As the ongoing debate on the supplemental should make clear, the United States already has a lot on its plate.

Madam Speaker, please remember that Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine remains unfinished business and that Ukraine is losing ground to Russian forces due to Donald Trump's interference in our emergency supplemental process.

The future of Europe is urgently—urgently—at stake. Already, there are dangerous conflicts simmering throughout the Middle East region, including continued attacks by the Houthis in Yemen against international shipping and U.S. military forces. China still has its sights set on Taiwan as China strengthens its relationship with both Iran and Russia.

An expanded war in the Middle East would put American soldiers deployed in the region in greater danger. It would harm the American middle class and global economies still clawing back pandemic-spurred inflation, just as our economy is beginning to rebound.

Are there those amongst us who think it is wise to open a broader war in the Middle East this week? Do we want to further encourage Iran to rush to build and test a nuclear weapon? Do we want to give Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping the satisfaction of the United States being bogged down in war?

China and Russia would love to see the United States embroiled and distracted in the Middle East as they continue their nefarious destabilizing objectives in Europe and the Indo-Pacific. We should not let that happen.

Madam Speaker, I conclude my remarks where I started. We stand strongly with the State of Israel and its right to defend its people. Israel, without question, has the right to defend itself, and I hope that strategy and thoughtfulness rule the day, not rage and revenge. There is too much at stake.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0930

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I stand in strong support of this resolution condemning Iran's unprecedented missile and drone attack on Israel.

However, it is important to note that for the people of Israel, attacks and threats from Iran are far from unprecedented. Every single day, the people of Israel face attacks from Iran's terrorist proxies that literally surround the State of Israel: Hezbollah, the Houthis, and, of course, Hamas.

We saw the consequences of Iran's massive support for these terrorist proxies play out in horrifying fashion on October 7. Now, with this latest unprecedented attack directly from Iran, we saw almost all of the missiles and drones intercepted. This is a testament to the strength and the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship, both in terms of the partnership that has allowed Israel to develop such an impressive capacity to defend itself and in terms of the collaboration that was on display.

I am glad that we will soon have an opportunity to provide long overdue support for Israel in this time of such great importance for the region.

Something else, though, is equally important to note about what happened last weekend, and that is that you had regional allies, other countries in the region, also rally to Israel's defense. This is something the likes of which we have not seen before, and it speaks to the extraordinary success of the Abraham Accords to usher in a new era of peace in the region. This, of course, is exactly what Iran does not want. This is the reason for their desperation. They understand what is unfolding if they do not respond, if they do not somehow stand in the way of it.

This is a time not only for the United States to stand with our ally, Israel, but for every nation around the world that values peace, freedom, and democracy to do so as well.

I strongly support this resolution. I would hope it passes this House with strong, unanimous, bipartisan support.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, as people are here witnessing us speaking about how the attacks are all interconnected, Iran, Russia, and China all are seeking to do harm to our Nation and to the Western rules-based order.

It is extraordinarily important in these times that we show strength and unity of purpose. I am thankful that the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS), the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, supported this measure both in the Rules Committee as well as on the floor here

today. It shows the very strong importance of this resolution and our unparalleled support for the State of Israel and its right to defend itself.

We, as the House of Representatives, have the responsibility to pass—and I expect later this week we will—a strong foreign aid package that will support our opposition to Iran, Russia, and China, and make sure that we support the people who are fighting for their freedom in Israel, Ukraine, and Taiwan to make sure that we have strong support of the American people. That is why it is important on a bipartisan basis that we work together to support this measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in sending a strong bipartisan and overwhelming show of support for the State of Israel by agreeing to this resolution.

Our allies and partners are closely watching this body's actions. We must send a clear message that we stand by our allies and our partners and are resolved against the adversaries and those who wish us all harm.

Madam Speaker, I urge the adoption of this resolution, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) and ask that she may control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Pennsylvania will control the time.

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in sending a strong, bipartisan message, an overwhelming support for the State of Israel by agreeing to this resolution. Our allies and our partners are closely watching this body's actions, and we must send a clear message that we stand by our allies and our partners and are resolved against our adversaries and those who wish to do all of us harm. I urge the adoption of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the majority leader. He is a strong supporter of the State of Israel. Time and again, he has led this floor in the support of one of our strongest allies in the world.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for leading this effort and for making sure all of our colleagues have the opportunity to stand with our friend, Israel, while they are at war.

We all know, starting October 7, Israel was attacked barbarically by one of Iran's proxies, Hamas, a terrorist organization. They went into Israel,

barbarically murdered Israelis and took hostages. Still to this day they have about 130 hostages, including some American citizens.

While this war to eviscerate the terrorist organization known as Hamas is going on, Israel then over the weekend faced an unprecedented attack directly from Iran. No longer is it only the proxies—whether it is Hamas, Hezbollah, or the Houthis, all who are supported by Iran—now Iran directly attacked with 300-plus drones and missiles to try to kill more Israelis.

Fortunately, of course, Israel and a coalition of the United States and other allies joined together to shoot down those missiles and drones. At the same time, Iran made it clear they wanted to attack Israel directly, which means Israel now is looking at how they properly respond.

During this time, again, a war that started—this idea of a cease-fire, the cease-fire ended when Hamas decided that they were going to go murder Israelis. Israel has a right to self-defense. This Congress has always stood by our friend, Israel, our greatest ally in the Middle East, a democracy.

They are always under attack. They have been under attack since their existence. They know how to defend themselves. When they respond—whatever choice the people of Israel make through their elected leaders—we need to express our support for that defense. That is Israel's right.

We saw September 11, but there have been other attacks on our homeland; of course, Pearl Harbor. When America is attacked, America responds. We don't have our allies calling us, saying: Don't respond. This is a time when the allies of Israel, including the United States, need to support Israel in their right to respond. Call out Iran, as this resolution does. Mr. KEAN has been very good about laying out the case for why we need to condemn Iran and their actions, but we also need to support Israel as they consider their options in how to properly respond to deter this from happening again.

It was unwarranted. It shouldn't have happened. We shouldn't just look and say: Well, all the missiles and drones were shot down, so everybody should just look the other way. They will keep trying until they kill innocent civilians.

Iran has always sponsored terrorism, and they have gotten away with it. We need to put sanctions back on Iran. They shouldn't be able to sell their oil on world markets, for example. Iran has made about \$60 billion in the last 3 years selling their oil on world markets. They shouldn't have that access. They use that money to sponsor terrorism, and now they are using that money directly to attack our friend and our ally, Israel.

While Israel is under attack, now more than ever we need to be unequivocal in our support for our friend, Israel, in their right to self-defense. God bless the people of Israel. We stand with

them. This resolution makes it very clear.

I thank, again, my friend from New Jersey for bringing this important piece of legislation. I urge its adoption, Madam Speaker.

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

I stand by Israel and its right to defend itself and condemn in the strongest of terms Iran's direct attack on our ally. It is my hope that Israel listens to what many of its allies are saying and not take steps that lead us into a greater regional war.

As President Biden has said, our defense against Iranian threats to Israel is ironclad. We have Israel's back, and we will not yield to Iranian threats.

Madam Speaker, I support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close. I urge the adoption of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1149, the previous question is ordered on the resolution and the preamble.

The question is on adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 42 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1030

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VAN DREW) at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.

CONDEMNING IRAN'S UNPRECEDENTED DRONE AND MISSILE ATTACK ON ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 1143) condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 404, nays 14, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 141]

YEAS—404

Adams	Davidson	Huffman
Aderholt	Davis (IL)	Huizenga
Aguilar	Davis (NC)	Issa
Alford	De La Cruz	Ivey
Allen	Dean (PA)	Jackson (NC)
Allred	DeGette	Jackson (TX)
Amo	DeLauro	Jackson Lee
Amodei	DelBene	Jacobs
Armstrong	Deluzio	James
Arrington	DeSaulnier	Jeffries
Auchincloss	DesJarlais	Johnson (LA)
Babin	Diaz-Balart	Johnson (SD)
Bacon	Dingell	Jordan
Baird	Doggett	Joyce (OH)
Balderson	Donalds	Joyce (PA)
Balint	Duarte	Kamlager-Dove
Banks	Duncan	Kaptur
Barr	Dunn (FL)	Kean (NJ)
Barragán	Edwards	Keating
Bean (FL)	Ellzey	Kelly (IL)
Beatty	Emmer	Kelly (MS)
Bentz	Escobar	Kelly (PA)
Bera	Eshoo	Khanna
Bergman	Espallat	Kiggans (VA)
Beyer	Estes	Kildee
Bice	Evans	Kiley
Biggs	Ezell	Kilmer
Bilirakis	Fallon	Kim (CA)
Bishop (GA)	Ferguson	Kim (NJ)
Bishop (NC)	Ferguson	Krishnamoorthi
Blumenauer	Finstad	Kuster
Blunt Rochester	Fischbach	Kustoff
Boebert	Fitzgerald	LaHood
Bonamici	Fitzpatrick	LaLota
Bost	Fleischmann	LaMalfa
Boyle (PA)	Fletcher	Lamborn
Brecheen	Flood	Landsman
Brown	Foster	Larsen (WA)
Brownley	Foushee	Larson (CT)
Buchanan	Fox	Latta
Buchshon	Frankel, Lois	LaTurner
Budzinski	Franklin, Scott	Lawler
Burchett	Frost	Lee (FL)
Burgess	Fry	Leger Fernandez
Burlison	Fulcher	Lesko
Calvert	Gaetz	Letlow
Cammack	Gallagher	Levin
Carbajal	Gallego	Lieu
Cárdenas	Garamendi	Lofgren
Carey	Garbarino	Loudermilk
Carl	Garcia (IL)	Lucas
Carson	Garcia (TX)	Luna
Carter (GA)	Garcia, Mike	Luttrell
Carter (LA)	Garcia, Robert	Lynch
Carter (TX)	Gimenez	Mace
Cartwright	Golden (ME)	Malliotakis
Case	Goldman (NY)	Maloy
Casten	Gomez	Mann
Castor (FL)	Gonzales, Tony	Manning
Castro (TX)	Gonzalez,	Mast
Chavez-DeRemer	Vicente	Matsui
Cherfilus-	Good (VA)	McBath
McCormick	Gooden (TX)	McCaul
Chu	Gosar	McClain
Ciscomani	Gottheimer	McClellan
Clark (MA)	Graves (LA)	McClintock
Clarke (NY)	Graves (MO)	McCollum
Cleaver	Green (TN)	McCormick
Cline	Green, Al (TX)	McGarvey
Cloud	Greene (GA)	McGovern
Clyburn	Griffith	McHenry
Clyde	Grothman	Meeks
Cohen	Guest	Menendez
Cole	Guthrie	Meng
Collins	Hageman	Meuser
Comer	Harder (CA)	Mfume
Connolly	Harris	Miller (IL)
Correa	Harshbarger	Miller (OH)
Costa	Hayes	Miller (WV)
Courtney	Hern	Miller-Meeks
Craig	Higgins (LA)	Mills
Crane	Hill	Moolenaar
Crawford	Himes	Moore (AL)
Crenshaw	Hinson	Moore (UT)
Crockett	Horsford	Moore (WI)
Crow	Houchin	Moran
Cuellar	Houlihan	Morelle
Curtis	Hoyer	Moskowitz
D'Esposito	Hoyle (OR)	Moulton
Davids (KS)	Hudson	Mrvan

Mullin	Salazar	Thanedar
Murphy	Salinas	Thompson (CA)
Nadler	Sánchez	Thompson (MS)
Napolitano	Sarbanes	Thompson (PA)
Neal	Scalise	Tiffany
Neguse	Scanlon	Timmons
Nehls	Schakowsky	Titus
Newhouse	Schiff	Tokuda
Nickel	Schneider	Tonko
Norcross	Scholten	Torres (CA)
Norman	Schrier	Torres (NY)
Nunn (IA)	Schweikert	Trahan
Obernoite	Scott (VA)	Trone
Ogles	Scott, Austin	Turner
Owens	Scott, David	Underwood
Pallone	Self	Valadao
Palmer	Sessions	Van Drew
Panetta	Sewell	Van Duyne
Papas	Sherman	Van Orden
Pascrell	Sherrill	Vargas
Pelosi	Simpson	Vasquez
Peltola	Slotkin	Veasey
Pence	Smith (MO)	Velázquez
Perez	Smith (NE)	Wagner
Perry	Smith (NJ)	Walberg
Peters	Smith (WA)	Waltz
Pettersen	Smucker	Wasserman
Pfleger	Sorensen	Schultz
Pingree	Soto	Waters
Pocan	Spanberger	Watson Coleman
Posey	Spartz	Weber (TX)
Quigley	Stansbury	Webster (FL)
Raskin	Stanton	Wenstrup
Reschenthaler	Staubert	Westerman
Rodgers (WA)	Steel	Wexton
Rogers (AL)	Stefanik	Wild
Rogers (KY)	Steil	Williams (GA)
Rose	Steube	Williams (NY)
Rosendale	Stevens	Williams (TX)
Ross	Strickland	Williams (FL)
Rouzer	Strong	Wilson (FL)
Roy	Suzoi	Wilson (SC)
Ruiz	Swalwell	Wittman
Ruppersberger	Sykes	Womack
Rutherford	Takano	Yakym
Ryan	Tenney	Zinke

NAYS—14

Bowman	Johnson (GA)	Omar
Bush	Lee (CA)	Pressley
Casar	Lee (PA)	Ramirez
Jackson (IL)	Massie	Tlaib
Jayapal	Ocasio-Cortez	

NOT VOTING—13

Caraveo	Lee (NV)	Payne
Granger	Luetkemeyer	Phillips
Grijalva	Magaziner	Porter
Hunt	Molinaro	
Langworthy	Mooney	

□ 1057

Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. GIMENEZ changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for Roll Call Vote No. 141. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on adoption of H. Res. 1143.

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my votes on Roll Call No. 141 today. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call 141.

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, my vote was not recorded today. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 141.

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 141.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL GARY KOONTZ

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lance Corporal Gary Koontz.

Gary enlisted in the Marines on October 26, 1967, and attended basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina. After basic training, Gary was shipped to Vietnam, where he drove a truck that carried supplies. After a short time, he was transferred and was then a door gunner with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

His unit played a crucial role in Operation Dewey Canyon, and their legacy remains tied to the challenges and triumphs of the Vietnam war.

During his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, the Vietnam Service Medal with device, the Combat Aircrew Insignia, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Air Medal Award with strike/flight 4.

When Corporal Koontz returned home, he was transferred to the Marine Reserve to complete his obligation.

Once returning to Knoxville, he became a super successful Realtor and developer, and he is an active member of the Vietnam Veterans of America.

He recently worked with the VA and a local assisted living facility to help a veteran get transferred closer to his wife. He is always calling me about veterans and the problems they are having, and he is trying to work to resolve them.

It is my honor to recognize Corporal Koontz as the Tennessee Second District's April 2024 Veteran of the Month. He is an incredibly good friend, and a dadgum, he is just a great American.

REFLECTING ON ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

(Ms. SÁNCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent a large and vibrant Armenian community in my congressional district.

On behalf of those constituents, I rise today to recognize the 109th commemoration of the Armenian genocide.

From 1915 to 1916, the Ottoman Empire systematically massacred the Armenian people. According to the U.S. Holocaust Museum, up to as many as 1.2 million Armenians were killed.

This genocide is one of the most painful moments in the world's history, yet, sadly, it is not spoken about much. We can never deny or forget the systemic and individual killing and mistreatment of Armenians.

We must learn from that terrible history and never lose focus on protecting oppressed and vulnerable people. We owe that to the victims and their descendants, who are still reeling and suffering from this cruel and unjust atrocity.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with the Armenian

community. We should all make time to reflect on this solemn day of remembrance.

CONGRATULATING COACH GINGER HIGH COLVIN

(Mr. COMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ginger High Colvin, who was recently announced as the 2024 Women's Basketball Coaches Association NAIA National Coach of the Year.

Ginger has been the women's basketball coach at Campbellsville University for 17 years.

Ginger has deep ties to Kentucky's First Congressional District, growing up in Monroe County and being a basketball star at both Tompkinsville High School and Campbellsville University herself.

Ginger receiving this award for the second year in a row is a testament to her commitment and dedication to her players and the university.

Under Ginger's leadership, the Lady Tigers have a 477-98 record and a 31-2 record this season, making it to the NAIA Elite Eight.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my friend, Coach Ginger Colvin, on this well-deserved award and another successful season.

RECOGNIZING 911 DISPATCHERS DURING NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

(Mrs. TORRES of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week as the first 911 dispatcher in Congress.

During America's darkest moments, 911 dispatchers are the first responders, from talking people out of committing suicide to handling active-shooter situations.

Every single day, 911 dispatchers talk to people during the most difficult times in their lives. Despite their hard work, 911 dispatchers are classified as clerical workers, making them first on the chopping block for budget cuts, leading to staffing shortages for an already stressful job.

For this reason, I urge Congress to pass my 911 SAVES Act to honor 911 dispatchers with a well-deserved reclassification.

CELEBRATING CHARLES CAUVEL'S 100th BIRTHDAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Charles Cauvel, a lifelong resident of Cranberry Township in Venango County.

Charles was born on March 24, 1924. He is the oldest of four children. He left high school in 10th grade when he was offered a job driving a truck. A year later, he started working on the railroad.

A few years later, in May 1943, he was drafted into the United States Army at 19 years of age, where he served until 1946. Charles spent 3 years overseas in the Pacific theater and was even part of the division sent to clean up Hiroshima after the atomic bomb was dropped.

Following his discharge in 1946, he was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star, and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Service Stars.

After the war, Charles returned to Cranberry Township, working as a pumper on an oil lease.

Today, Charles has many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and he continues to share stories of his time in the Army and growing up in Venango County.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Charles a happy birthday, and I thank him for his service to our country.

CALLING FOR RENEWED INVESTMENT IN THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

(Mr. LANDSMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for a renewed investment in the Affordable Connectivity Program, which is set to expire this month.

The ACP has helped over 23 million households that have received affordable broadband internet.

In my district alone, that is one in four people who depend on the ACP for internet access. This access is so important. It allows people to work from home, children to do their homework, people to get healthcare online, and everyone to participate in our digital economy, all without prohibitive costs.

This investment is about more than just internet access. It is about opportunity and equality and strengthening our economy.

Continuing to fund the ACP would have bipartisan and overwhelming support when brought to the floor. Millions will be left without internet access if we don't, so I urge the Speaker to bring this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to sign the discharge petition, which will be here today.

RECOGNIZING JOE BRANNEN

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of Joe Brannen.

After Joe graduated from the University of Georgia, he spent 8 years serving on the staff of Georgia Senator Sam Nunn. He went on to have a successful banking career spanning over 40 years.

Joe will retire as president and chief executive officer of the Georgia Bankers Association on July 15, his 44th anniversary of joining the association.

The Georgia Bankers Association enjoyed its greatest decades of growth and prosperity under the unwavering leadership of Joe.

Joe has served on a wide variety of boards, both in and out of the banking community, including the Georgia Bar Foundation, the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the American Free Market Chamber of Commerce, the State YMCA, and his own local church.

Joe is a trusted adviser, a thoughtful leader, and a respected friend to many.

In short, Joe is one of the good guys. I wish him and his wife, Vilda, nothing but happiness and a well-earned retirement.

HONORING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENT CLARICE LAFRENIERE

(Ms. SALINAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Clarice Lafreniere, who was just awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for her service as a real-life Rosie the Riveter during World War II.

I had the honor of meeting Clarice and her granddaughter in my office last week and hearing firsthand her story of courage and conviction during a very dark time in our Nation's history.

Clarice gave birth to her daughter just hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, but like many Americans, she felt the need to spring into action and support the war effort. So, Clarice went on to work at the Kaiser shipyard in Portland, where she cut and welded steel for ships.

She wasn't the only one. In total, about 16 million women across the country served as riveters, buckers, welders, and electricians during the war. These real-life Rosies were critical to ensuring American victory.

Today, Clarice is 102 years young, remains very active in her community, and is eager to share her story with younger generations.

I can't think of anyone more deserving of our Nation's highest civilian honor, and I am so grateful to Clarice and her family for their service.

□ 1115

HONORING NATE BRUCKENTHAL'S SERVICE

(Mr. LALOTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a true hero, Nate Bruckenthal, who gave his life in service to our great country on April 24, 2004.

Born in Stony Brook, Nate's unwavering dedication to service was evident from a young age. In 1999, he answered the call of duty and joined the United States Coast Guard and served on the Point Wells based out of Montauk.

In 2004, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf where he and two Navy sailors were killed while intercepting a waterborne suicide attack off the coast of Iraq. Nate's actions saved the lives of countless fellow sailors, and we can never thank him enough for his bravery and heroism.

Nate's ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty serves as a poignant reminder of the selflessness and courage exhibited by our servicemembers every day. May we never forget his sacrifice and may his memory inspire future generations to serve with the same bravery and devotion.

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM ON BRINK OF COLLAPSE

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Connectivity Program, ACP, a lifeline for 23 million households nationwide, is on the brink of collapse. April marks the end of the program, putting the internet out of reach for many Americans.

The ACP is about leveling the digital playing field, especially for rural America. Without action, millions will lose access to high-speed internet. In North Carolina's First Congressional District, over 81,000 households rely on ACP for internet access.

ACP isn't about luxury. It is essential for our farmers, students, and small businesses. I urge Congress to act now.

HONORING FATHER ROBERT CYRIL GUISE

(Mr. VAN ORDEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Father Robert Cyril Guise, who passed away and entered into eternal life on April 4, 2024, at the age of 92.

He demonstrated through his decades of highly respected, Godly service around the world that a timeless faith in our Savior Jesus Christ rises above

all earthly troubles and that a man who dedicates himself to bringing the Word of God can shine a light to those in darkness that can never be extinguished.

He brought countless souls to Christ, and should be commended for this, but I believe that he would have preferred to be remembered as a simple servant of God. In his humility, he gave us an example to follow, this being a reflection of the example set by our Savior.

Father Cyril was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Harry and Mary V. McGrath Guise. Father Cyril was a Carmelite Friar for almost 65 years. He entered religious life on August 21, 1950, at the age of 19 and made his first profession of vows a year later and was ordained into the priesthood on June 6, 1959.

After his ordination, Father Cyril was called to minister in the Philippines, and then he was appointed vicar at the Church's retreat house in Peterborough, New Hampshire. For the next several decades, Father Cyril lovingly served those in the most trying of times as a dedicated hospital chaplain in multiple locations around the country.

In 1994, God called him to Holy Hill, where he served in leadership for a 3-year term as prior and then as director of the developmental office. He will be greatly missed by his religious community.

On a personal note, Father Cyril was my Uncle Bob and Auntie Mary Jean's priest. We all consider him a member of our family who offered the greatest comfort to those of us during their passing, as he did during the passing of our daughter. May God bless him and grant him sweet repose.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Father Robert Cyril Guise's contribution to my State, this Nation, and the world be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for posterity.

ENERGY STABILITY IN INSULAR REGIONS

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about the need for congressional support for energy stability in offshore, isolated and underserved areas. In the Virgin Islands, we are acutely aware of the impacts of climate change, including the increasing frequency and severity of hurricanes, as evidenced in 2017 with two Category 5 hurricanes hitting our home.

Energy remains the single most critical factor for our territory's future. High electricity costs and power instability continue to hamper economic recovery. Systemic energy instability has direct and indirect negative impacts on sustainable economic development, which magnifies existing societal vulnerabilities.

The Biden-Harris administration's energy policy offers the Virgin Islands

and places like it a transformative opportunity, including the Energy Department's State Energy Program and Loan Programs Office, the Interior Department's Energizing Insular Communities, and EPA's Solar for All programs.

We must continue to utilize and champion this administration's vision to enable disadvantaged, isolated areas to define and implement our energy future through a modern-day lens, fundamentally addressing our needs as we see them.

FRANK'S RESTAURANT 100TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. HUIZENGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, in a time where there is conflict and war throughout the world, it is also good to remember those things that bring a smile to our face, whether it is people, traditions, or places. Today's tribute is one of those in my life.

It is the 100th anniversary of Frank's Restaurant, which is an absolute icon in my hometown of Zeeland, Michigan. It was started by a man named Frank Dionise just 100 years ago and was family owned. The Dionises and the Hammers had owned it until just recently.

It is the kind of place that every Zeelander has memories in and around. It is the kind of place where every true Zeelander knows what their go-to order is; mine happens to be the olive burger with onion rings.

I thank Teresa Vander Zwaag and the families that have taken that over and made sure that this institution is continuing while it celebrates 100 years in the great town of Zeeland, Michigan.

NORTH AMERICA'S STRONGEST TOWN

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the strongest town in America. This year, 16 cities from across our continent competed for the title of North America's Strongest Town.

Over a 4-week span, with each round of voting lasting one week, these communities competed for a prestigious title. That title came back home to America's heartland in the Great Lakes region. The winner was Maumee in northwest Ohio in the Ninth Congressional District. It took the title over Norfolk, Nebraska.

This year's contest was the ninth annual event to name the strongest town. According to contest rules, a strong town is defined as any town, big or small, that prioritizes making progress in transportation, housing, and fiscal resiliency for the long-term benefit of its people.

The award does not ask a town to be perfect nor does every strong town look the same. This is because strong towns incrementally adapt to the conditions and challenges of their specific place from the bottom up.

Maumee, Ohio, which exists along the Maumee River, the largest river that flows into the entire Great Lakes, will hold a news conference this morning to formally accept this prestigious title. We in northwest Ohio couldn't be prouder of Maumee, Ohio. Onward, Maumee.

OUR BORDER IS A SIEVE

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, we have this gigantic problem with our sieve of a border. We hear all these ideas of how we can spend lots of money or the White House can't do anything about it.

Well, I remind you that President Trump had many pieces in place that were actually working and bringing the numbers down on illegal immigration into this country. All we have to do is put these pieces right back in place.

President Biden, by executive action, could put these eight ideas right back in place and not have to do anything with new expenditures or new legislation. We have the laws; we have the ability. He just needs to act.

To hear the President saying: I don't know if I have the authority. That is bogus. He has the authority. If he wants to take action, he can. These eight items right here on this poster could be something he could sign executive orders right away and stop a massive percentage of what is wrong with our border. It would make our country secure again, save money, save the wear and tear on our social programs and make the citizens of our country feel like their citizenship actually means something once again.

I urge President Biden to take these steps and put us back on the correct track.

AUTHORIZING WORK PERMITS

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize the need for the Biden administration to authorize work permits for those in our Nation who are long-term immigrants.

Yesterday, my colleagues and I sent a letter to the White House pushing for work permits for long-term immigrants, those that have been in our country for decades working hard, paying taxes, and contributing to our economy. We should also help the spouses of our military. We should also help deported veterans.

The last time we had meaningful immigration reform in this country, that

great Californian Ronald Reagan was President. To date, Congress has failed to deliver on a pathway to citizenship.

I ask Mr. Biden to use his pen, sign an executive order, give these hard-working immigrants a work permit.

CONGRATULATING JEFF McLENDON

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Georgia's Jeff McLendon on the conclusion of his tenure as chairman of the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors.

This association is comprised of the companies that keep America moving while employing 6 million Americans, many of them Georgians, in high-paying, rewarding careers.

With Jeff's guidance as chairman, NAW expanded its educational opportunities for emerging leaders, enhanced its thoughtful leadership in a rapidly innovating world and continued to be an effective voice for distribution-friendly policies here in Washington.

NAW's success under Jeff's leadership shouldn't be a surprise to anyone, knowing Jeff's success in the business over these past 20 years leading Duluth, Georgia's, Specialty Building Products.

I had the opportunity to visit one of his facilities last year and to meet with him and members of his impressive team. Jeff is a humble leader and a man of faith who cares deeply about his employees, his community, and his country.

I, again, congratulate Jeff on his tenure as NAW chairman, and I appreciate his continued servant leadership in the Georgia business community.

□ 1130

A SMART AGREEMENT

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, later today on April 18, three Australian submariners are slated to graduate from the Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton. They are the first three submariners from Australia under the AUKUS security agreement who are gaining proficiency to operate a nuclear-powered submarine—again, a first for both countries.

After graduating from this course, they will be headed to Naval Station Pearl Harbor for assignment to United States Virginia-class submarines, and this, again, marks another first where they will be the first-ever Australian naval personnel assigned a U.S. Navy vessel.

Over the next 12 months, 100 more Australian Navy personnel will continue in this pipeline to implement the

AUKUS agreement, which is one of the smartest collaborations between the U.S., the U.K., and Australia to uplift their submarine capacity to work together for the three nations and rebalance the deteriorating security environment in the Indo-Pacific. I congratulate them all, or as they would say in Australian, good on ya.

GAZA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CISCOMANI). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. Today, I would like to do something just a bit different. I have stood here on many occasions and said that I love my country, that I salute the flag. I still love my country and salute the flag, and today what I would like to do is actually salute the flag. I just believe that any time is a good time, especially when you are in this facility, to salute the flag.

If you would indulge me, Mr. Speaker, I would like to move to another podium.

And still I rise, Mr. Speaker, proud to stand here in the well of the House of Representatives. One can but only imagine the great speeches, the oratory that is imitated from this area. However, today, I want to do something different. I just want to say the Pledge of Allegiance from this very almost sacred place.

Those who would like to join me, you but only have to stand and as you would normally salute the flag, you may do so. If you choose not to, you don't have to. The greatness of America will not be measured by whether the AL GREENS of the world salute the flag. The greatness of America will be measured by whether the AL GREENS of the world would defend those who choose not to salute the flag, who choose not to say the Pledge of Allegiance, who choose not to sing the national anthem, who choose not to stand for the anthem.

I, today, will do what I will do, and that is salute the flag. To all of my friends who are here, we are about to say the Pledge of Allegiance, and for those who choose not to, you don't have to, but those who do, would you join me by standing. I place my hand over my heart when I say the Pledge of Allegiance. I shall lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate everyone joining me in this Pledge of Allegiance.

I wanted to do this because I believe the values that we have in this country we can export to the rest of the world.

I believe that the words in the Declaration of Independence, a founding document, these are words that we can export to the rest of the world: All persons created equal, endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These are powerful words. These words are words that we are in this country still trying to make real. It is a great and noble ideal, but we still have not gotten there yet. We are forming still our more perfect Union.

I think that as we do it here, I believe that these things can be exported to the rest of the country—the rest of the world, if you will—the notion that all persons are created equal, endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I want to focus for just a moment on life, this aspect of the Declaration of Independence. I want to focus on lives not just in this country because we do this quite often, so I have said a lot about the deaths that are taking place here, the mass shootings that are taking place here, yes, but I want to export this idea to another place.

I want to talk about this noble concept as it relates to Gaza and what is happening to the lives in Gaza. I want to do this because for too long the thousands that have lost their lives have been statisticized. The statisticization of their lives is a disservice to humanity. These innocent people, innocent men, women, and especially children, their lives should not be just simply statisticized. Their lives ought to be humanized.

Today, I would like to humanize the lives, and I also have a resolution commemorating innocent civilian lives lost in Gaza, especially children.

Let's export the great and noble American ideal in our Declaration of Independence, let's apply it to people on a global basis.

Now I shall move back to the podium where I ordinarily make my comments because I have some paraphernalia there that I will be introducing. Mr. Speaker, I move to the next podium.

This is a resolution that I am previewing. There may be some tweaking, but I am previewing it, and it will be filed either today or tomorrow. This resolution commemorates innocent civilian lives lost in Gaza, especially children.

Whereas, this resolution may be cited as the original resolution commemorating innocent civilian lives lost in Gaza, especially children.

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas conducted a heinous attack on Israel leading to Israel declaring war on Hamas—not Palestine, not Palestinians, but declaring war on Hamas. And I say this because, unfortunately, a good many people—too many, if you will—have concluded that the war is against Palestinians, against Palestine. The war was declared against Hamas, and the Prime Minister of

Israel himself has indicated that the war is against Hamas. He has also indicated that the Palestinians are victims, the Palestinians are victims. I concur. The innocent Palestinian men, women, and especially children are victims of this war. They are victims to the extent that they not only suffer from being in a war zone, but they also suffer by being harmed in various and sundry ways—and I will say more about this later—and they are losing their lives.

Continuing:

Whereas, both Palestinians and Israelis are in mourning. The country of Israel is still in mourning from the October 7 horrendous attack. Gazans, Palestinians, innocent men, women, and children are in mourning because of the thousands, the tens of thousands, who have lost their lives in this war.

Whereas, in 2020 the population of Gaza was over 2 million with approximately half being children under the age of 18.

Whereas, the pain, suffering, and deaths of innocent Palestinian men, women, and especially children, are too often reduced to statisticization.

Whereas, people of good will must do more than statisticize the pain, suffering, and killing of innocent civilian Palestinians.

Whereas, people of good will must do more to humanize the pain and suffering of Palestinians in Gaza with explanations of how they lost their arms, legs, eyes, ears, and lives.

Let me repeat this because this statisticization is something that is difficult to say but also something that we ought not attribute to persons who have lost their arms, legs, eyes, and hearing, as well as their lives. This is a very sad, sad circumstance to have to negotiate and deal with.

Whereas, because of the war, homes, schools, businesses, hospitals and, more importantly, their lives in Gaza have been destroyed.

Whereas, because of the war many businesses have been decimated.

Whereas, hundreds of thousands of innocent civilian men, women, and especially children, in Gaza have suffered through the loss of mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters while starving and suffering the mental anguish associated with war.

Whereas, civilians in Gaza live in constant fear of sudden loss of arms, legs, and life; and

Whereas, tens of thousands of innocent civilians, including thousands of children, have been brutally killed in a war beyond their control.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the House of Representatives commemorates the tens of thousands of innocent civilian lives lost in Gaza, especially those of children. The lives lost should be viewed as more than mere statistics, the humanity, the pain, suffering, and deaths of the tens of thousands of men, women, and especially children, must be commemorated and memorialized.

The killing of innocent men, women, and especially children, in Palestine must cease immediately with all possible haste.

All hostages must be returned immediately—and we are talking about hostages that are Israeli, as well as any that may be Palestinian, but we know that Israeli hostages were taken.

And finally, because the United States' largess has contributed to the purchase of munitions used by the Netanyahu administration, the United States must do everything it can to address the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza perpetrated by the destruction of homes, infrastructure, schools, hospitals, and, also, I would add, the loss of human life.

Now, I would like to give you some graphic indications of what this is all about. There is an article from *The New Yorker* that I would like to read, dated March 21, 2020. I will go through it, and then I will show you some pictures of what has happened. But first, let's start with this representation.

□ 1145

This is a representation of persons who are in mourning, and they are doing what people do when they are suffering. You can see persons who are screaming and crying out.

The language reads: "Of the thousands of Palestinians killed in Gaza, about 70 percent have been women and children."

That is quite a large number. About 70 percent have been women and children.

This representation is of persons who are making an appeal for food. You can see in their eyes a sadness. You can see, with their hands extended, a plea for food.

The language reads: "The catastrophic levels of hunger and starvation in Gaza are the highest ever recorded on the IPC scale, both in terms of number of people and percentage of the population," the highest ever recorded of hunger in Gaza.

Now, this picture is a representation that tears at your heart as well but perhaps even in a more profound way because this young lady that you see, this baby, she is without her left leg. She is on a playground, so one would conclude that she is not in Gaza. You would be correct. You would be incorrect if you assume that this injury occurred in some place other than Gaza because that is where it occurred. As I read this article from *The New Yorker*, which I alluded to earlier, you will get a better comprehension of where she is and what happened to her.

Mr. Speaker, it is a very sad story, but we have to humanize these thousands of people. We can't just allow them to just become numbers. If they are just numbers, it is easy to dismiss them as just casualties of war.

They are more than numbers. These are human beings who have suffered. These are human beings who have relatives that are suffering. These are

human beings whose lives are never going to be the same. There is a good likelihood that they won't have what we have in this country, and that is the medical assistance to help them recover, those who survive, as well as the medical attention for mental illness that they may suffer.

Mr. Speaker, these are human beings. Some mother cried because of what happened to this child. Some father is crying because of what has happened to his child in Gaza. We cannot allow them to be dehumanized and reduced to statistics. We have to humanize these persons.

Mr. Speaker, I have chosen this baby as the example for us to give some thought to.

This article in *The New Yorker* is styled "The Children Who Lost Limbs in Gaza." The subtitle reads: "More than a thousand children who were injured in the war are now amputees."

Mr. Speaker, some things bear repeating; I say this quite regularly. It reads: "More than a thousand children who were injured in the war are now amputees."

This baby is more than one in a thousand.

What do their futures hold?

This article was published on March 21, 2024. It continues. This is the photograph that accompanied this article. The excerpts read: "Gazal was wounded on November 10, when, as her family fled Gaza City's Al-Shifa hospital, shrapnel pierced her left calf."

That would be the leg that she lost, and this is what will break your heart: "To stop the bleeding, a doctor, who had no access to antiseptic or anesthesia, heated the blade of a kitchen knife—no antiseptic, no anesthesia, heated the blade of a kitchen knife—and cauterized the wound."

Now, cauterization means that he took that hot blade without any anesthesia, without antiseptic, and he placed this hot blade on the skin of this baby—a hot blade—to save her life.

Can you imagine the screams? Can you imagine the heartache that the parents felt as they saw this happening to their baby? But they knew this was necessary. This is a lifesaving technique, a hot blade—"heated the blade of a kitchen knife and cauterized the wound."

She is more than a statistic. She is a human being, and she deserves to have someone recognize her humanity.

"Within days, the gash ran with pus and began to smell." She suffered the hot blade, and now the gash is smelling, running with pus.

"By mid-December, when Gazal's family arrived at Nasser Medical Center," which has been rendered dysfunctional now, I believe. If it is not, it has been brought back online, but it was.

Gazal's family took her to this medical center. It was, at the time, the largest functioning healthcare facility, but when they got there, gangrene had set in.

First, she is wounded. Then, she suffers a hot blade. Now, she has gan-

grene, necessitating amputation at the hip.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about the baby in this picture. Let's humanize her.

"On December 17, a projectile hit the children's ward of Nasser," meaning this hospital. "Gazal and her mother watched it enter their room."

Here is the mother with her daughter, having suffered cauterization with the blade of a hot kitchen knife, now in the hospital, and they witness the projectile coming into the ward where the baby is. A projectile hit the ward.

"Gazal and her mother watched it enter their room, decapitating Gazal's 12-year-old roommate and causing the ceiling to collapse."

This is a baby who has suffered more than any human being should, and now, while in the hospital, a projectile comes into the ward where she is. This projectile decapitates her 12-year-old roommate.

We have to humanize, not statisticize.

This caused the ceiling to collapse.

"Multiple news reports have described the event as an Israeli attack. The IDF claimed the incident could have been caused by a Hamas mortar or the remnant of an Israeli flare."

This is what *The New Yorker* is quoting, someone with the IDF, the Israeli Defense Force. This person is indicating that it could have been a mortar from Hamas, or it could have been the remnant of an Israeli flare.

"Gazal and her mother managed to crawl out of the rubble. The next day, their names were added to the list of evacuees who could cross the border into Egypt and then fly to Qatar for medical treatment."

This is her now in Qatar. Her mother got her out.

"Gazal's mother was 9 months pregnant."

The mother, whose daughter has suffered incalculable pain, was 9 months pregnant. She gave birth to a baby girl while awaiting the airlift.

All of this time, this mother was pregnant—while having her daughter suffer the blade of a hot knife to save her life and then taking her daughter to a hospital where a projectile enters the room and decapitates another baby—12 years old—in that room.

Now, this baby sees all of this. She is a witness to this. Can you imagine what her life will be like, the trauma she will suffer?

Mr. Speaker, we have to humanize these lives. This is not just another casualty of war. This is a human being.

UNICEF estimates that 1,000 children in Gaza have become amputees. This baby represents one of a thousand—probably more than that now.

This baby has to be humanized.

This article indicates: "This is the biggest cohort of pediatric amputees in history."

This is happening in Gaza, the biggest cohort of pediatric amputees in history. We call these casualties of

war. This baby is just another casualty of war—the biggest cohort in history. She is more than a casualty of war. She is a human being.

I now move to another story that should be humanized. This one is from CNN, a fairly reputable news source. The style of this article is: "At least 13 killed, including 7 children, after strike on Gaza's Al-Maghazi refugee camp."

Mr. Speaker, 13 killed, including 7 children. This didn't happen a month ago. This didn't happen 2 months ago. This happened on April 16.

□ 1200

That is in the very recent past. "At least 13 people, it reads, were killed, including 7 children, and more than 25 injured after a strike targeted Al-Maghazi refugee camp in central Gaza on Tuesday, according to Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital officials."

"Graphic video obtained exclusively by CNN from eyewitness Nihad Owdetallah, shows several casualties scattered on the floor, including children, with blood streaming around the area."

This was Tuesday. This was the Tuesday sometime after what happened in Israel as it relates to Iran. This happens in Gaza as the Netanyahu administration is planning a response to what happened with Iran.

How do you think these people feel? What about them? Are we now going to just forget them? We will just go on to the next fight, and these thousands, tens of thousands, over 30,000, just sort of put them in the past? I will not.

There has to be some justice for these children. What is happening to them is an injustice. You cannot, in the name of justice, create an injustice and call it justice. An injustice in the name of justice is still an injustice. This is an injustice, and it is continuing after Prime Minister Netanyahu has indicated that he wants justice for what happened to Israel. How can we just let this become a thing of the past? I refuse to allow it to be a thing of the past.

The video shows several casualties spread on the floor, including children with blood streaming around the area.

"Dozens of people appear to be running around in panic, screaming and trying to count and carry the dead bodies. A foosball table covered in dust is seen among the dead bodies."

The witness, who lives in the camp, told CNN he heard an explosion around 3:40 p.m. local time on Tuesday around 30 to 40 meters away from him. This is his quotation: "I immediately walked to see what happened and found dead bodies thrown on the ground. People screaming, kids screaming. Kids dead on the ground. They were just playing foosball, and they were martyred."

"Footage shot for CNN from inside Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital shows a continuous flow of casualties and injured people being ushered in, as the emergency room is crowded with patients,

including several wounded children, crying out on the floor”—children.

Let's go back to the style of this article: "At least 13 killed, including 7 children, after strike on Gaza's Al-Maghazi refugee camp."

"The emergency room is crowded with patients, including several wounded children, crying out on the floor. Family members are seen crowding over their loved one's dead bodies, kissing them, holding onto them and sobbing."

These are human beings. They do what human beings do when they suffer these kinds of tragedies.

"Video from inside a morgue at the hospital shows families trying to identify their loved ones among the deceased. Fatmeh Issa points to a white body bag with a young boy's bloodied face exposed, telling CNN, 'This is my son.'" A young boy's bloodied face exposed in a white body bag, "This is my son," she says.

"Another man cries out, 'They have nothing to do with anyone. They are civilians. Have mercy on us.'"

These people are pleading, appealing to us. I say "us," because our fingerprints are all over this. The munitions being used are in some part related to the largesse that we send to the Netanyahu administration. That largesse is the link to us, and we have to do something about it.

"Have mercy on us. You are killing children. You are not killing an army or fighters. . . ."

Remember earlier, I said the war was declared on Hamas, not Palestinians, not Palestine? Here is a validation of the thinking of the people in Gaza. These people understand what is going on. "You are killing children. You are not killing an army or fighters; you are killing children who were peacefully playing in the street."

They are children playing in the street. One moment they are children running and doing the things that children do, laughing. The next moment, seven are dead. You are killing children who were peacefully playing in the street, not an army, not fighters.

"Video shows him handing a young girl's dead body to another man, both men crying out Quranic verses and sobbing. The man who receives her body is seen placing her on the ground, and covers her body with a jacket, telling CNN she is his daughter."

Human beings dying and suffering, suffering and then dying and those left behind suffering.

This war has to cease. It has got to stop. We ought to be among the first to say it has got to stop.

Do you think history is going to be kind to us? Posterity is not going to be kind to the Netanyahu administration. We will be seen as persons who were eyewitnesses by way of television to a great human tragedy and did not do what we could to prevent it.

Remember, the war was not declared on children. It wasn't declared on women. It wasn't declared on innocent

people. It was declared on Hamas, but we know that more than 30,000 Palestinians have lost their lives, some of them in horrific ways.

There seems to be a means by which the mind can process a person dying as a result of an explosion from one of the bombs that we helped pay for. There seems to be a means by which the mind can process that and see that as something that is not as horrific as if you do it in many other ways. It was just a bomb. The person was just a casualty of war, just another number, that is all. We need to move on.

My fear is just that, that at some point, Prime Minister Netanyahu will decide enough is enough, and we will then say he has now moved on.

Do you think this baby will have moved on? Do you think her parents will have moved on? Do you think the people who are suffering now will have moved on? This is a rest of their lives incident.

Incident? What a kind way to say it. This is a rest of their lives tragedy. This is a rest of their lives slaughtering of human beings. Do you think they can just move on?

At some point on this infinite continuum that we call time, we are all going to have to account for our time. Somebody is going to have to account for this and the thousands of innocent people who lost their lives. It won't be simply: Well, I just cast a vote. I didn't do it. There is a connection. We have our fingerprints all over this, and we ought to do what we can to prevent it from continuing.

The man who has said this is his daughter, he indicates: "This is my oldest daughter . . . her name is Lujain. She is 9 years old."

This man has lost his 9-year-old daughter. It goes on to indicate: "A strike hit them while they were playing out in the street. They are all just children."

Mr. Speaker, I can't let it go. I am sorry. I can't. I wish I could, but I can't. These are babies. I can't let it go. I refuse to be a participant in this any longer. I have done it too long already. Too many babies have been killed. It has got to stop.

Don't expect me to continue to fund this. Say what you want about me, but I am not going to continue to fund this killing of babies and then making them mere numbers.

At some point, we have to come to our senses. Don't you see what we are doing to ourselves and our image in the world?

□ 1215

Don't you see what Mr. Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, is doing to Israel's image in the world?

Israel had the moral high ground. It is losing it. Some would say it has lost it.

Nonetheless, we are quick to return it if something happens in Israel. We are quick to return it: You now have it again.

I refuse—I refuse—to continue to fund this kind of atrocious behavior.

Voltaire was right: Those who can make you believe absurdities—actually, it was: Those who can cause you to let's just say believe absurdities, there is another way he put it, but those who can cause you to believe absurdities can cause you to commit atrocities. That is not the exact word.

We now believe the absurd notion that it is all right to kill innocent men, women, and especially children, if in that process we are trying to get to a dastard who is hiding behind these innocent men, women, and children.

I refuse to continue to be part of this unbelievable killing of men, women, and children before our very eyes that we are funding. Now, someone would say: Well, the war in Ukraine, you are funding that.

We might remember that Ukraine is defending itself in a war where there has been an invasion.

I don't want war anywhere. Ukraine's innocent men, women, and children are being killed as well, but Russia is funding that. Russia has their fingerprints all over that, and I don't approve of what Russia is doing.

That is easy for us to say in this country. It is easy for us to condemn Russia for what Russia is doing. We do it without hesitation and without equivocation. We do it with no consternation—just Russia, we can do it.

Why?

It is because it is easy to look through the window of life at someone else and say: What you are doing is wrong. It is not so easy to look into the mirror of life and see the wrong that you are doing yourself. At some point we have to confess to what we are seeing in the mirror of life. If we don't, then we will still be judged. I assure you, Mr. Speaker, history is not going to be kind to us for what is happening in Gaza.

There are going to be people who are going to wonder: What was wrong with them? They saw it. They had evidence of it, and they still forged forward to get it over with. Finish it, they say. Finish it.

Finish this?

Get this over with?

Mr. Speaker, do you think that will be over for her?

I refuse to continue to support this.

Now, there will be some who say: If you can't do this, then you ought not be there because we expect you to cast the votes to do this.

Mr. Speaker, all I can say to that is: My conscience will dictate what I do. I will do what I must and let others do what they may.

Do what you will. I have not suggested to one of you that you have to vote a certain way. I am just telling you how I am going to vote. I am telling you, Mr. Speaker, that history is not going to be kind to all of us, and that includes me.

I voted for over \$50 billion to go to the country of Israel. Not that very

long ago we voted more than \$3 billion. I have been a supporter. I am still a supporter of the people. I am not a supporter of the Netanyahu administration. I support the people, not that administration, because what they are doing to the people of Gaza is ungodly. It is shameful. It is disgraceful. I will not support that.

Let others do what they may. If there are people who believe so strongly about this in the Ninth Congressional District that they want somebody who will tolerate this and go along with this, then send them on up here and take me out because I don't go along with it. I am not going to go along so that I can get along, not when it comes to this.

By the way, I am not a saint. I don't claim to be a saint. I just claim to be a person whose conscience dictates that I shall not support this kind of behavior.

Mr. Speaker, I will close with this: Notwithstanding all that I have said, I still love my country. I am an American. I believe I am of African ancestry. I have not checked my bloodline to find out, I don't know, but I love this country. It means something to me to say to people that I am an American.

I love it more than it has loved me. It segregated me. The rights that the Constitution recognized for me my friends and neighbors in the South took away from me, but I still love my country.

How can you love your country when your country has treated you the way it has: the back of the bus, balcony of the movie, step off the sidewalk when people come by, separate line for you at the grocery store, and colored water fountains, how can you love it?

It is because I love what it stands for and its noble ideals, the ideals of liberty and justice for all as extolled in the Pledge of Allegiance that we said at the genesis of this message. I love the ideal in the Declaration of Independence that all persons are created equal and endowed by their Creator with these inalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

This is why I have said that because I love these ideals, I believe we should export them to other people, but not export them in the sense that we want them to simply obey them and treat other people right, I think that is a good thing to do, but in the sense that we ought to respect her life, her liberty, and her desire to pursue happiness. We ought to respect her life. Export that to people across the globe, especially people who are trapped, trapped in Gaza and who can't get out. They have no place to go and are told to move from one place to another.

Let's give them the benefit of these noble words: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I will do so in every way that I can. I believe in this country, and I love it to the extent that I believe we ought to make that noble ideal real for people in this country

and without this country, especially the people who are in Gaza.

Mr. Speaker, as a proud Member of this Congress and a proud American in the sense that I love my country because of its great ideals, I yield back the balance of my time.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to look at three major issues. Sometimes with the minor day-to-day issues one forgets to analyze the major issues that I think are going to determine the fate of our country.

In the last week, one more time, we got the results on the number of people crossing the southern border. While the results keep pouring in month after month, it is, in my opinion, and I think in most people's opinion, the most significant issue that Congress has to address.

In March of 2024, and these, of course, all are estimates, we believe 220,000 people crossed the southern border and stayed in the United States. This has something in common with every other month this year, and it goes up and down depending on the time of year; one more time, we hit an all-time record of the number of people coming into this country by that month.

In March of 2024, it was 220,000. In March of 2023, it was 130,000. In March of 2022, it was 166,000. In the final year of the prior administration, it was 11,000. One more time, we see the increase from 11,000 people coming here in a month to 220,000 people coming here in a month.

We recently had a hearing on the border in a subcommittee related to the Oversight and Accountability Committee, and on that committee, the sheriff, Sheriff Waybourn, pointed out that right now about 25 percent of the Venezuelan prison population dropped by 25 percent.

This is consistent with concerns raised by the Border Patrol that in addition to just plain taking people we can't afford to take, other countries are dumping their undesirables into this country.

Does President Biden care that the number of people in Venezuelan prisons has dropped by 25 percent?

That by itself should be a banner headline.

The next thing to look at in addition to that drop is an anecdote from Sheriff Waybourn from Texas. He points out that someone asked a member of the cartels: Do they care about the fentanyl coming into this country and all the people who are dying?

His quote was that they were okay as long as the fentanyl was killing Americans.

Now, think about that, Mr. Speaker. This is consistent with what we think

the worst possible motive for bringing fentanyl into this country is. They want to destroy the United States. China itself is playing a role in the amount of fentanyl coming in this country.

The young people of this country may feel they are not involved in a war. They never enlisted in the Army, and they never enlisted in the Navy.

Be that as it may, like it or not, you are involved in a war. As a matter of fact, more people are dying in the war that you have signed up for than in any of the wars that our armed services have fought in, about 108,000 people a year.

They are dying in a war because the Mexican drug cartels and foreign countries that produce the fentanyl do not wish the U.S. well. They apparently like to see young Americans die, and young Americans have to realize that there are people gunning for them.

We talked about those 110,000 people. That is about twice the number of people every year who die in the war on drugs compared to the number of people who died in Vietnam.

Think about that, Mr. Speaker. I am old enough to remember Vietnam. People were dying all the time. Headlines said that people are dying in Vietnam. Twice as many people die every year as died in 12 years in Vietnam. It is just unbelievable.

□ 1230

Now, there are some people who get confused and think, well, we just have to take these people coming here illegally because we are, otherwise, cruel and not allowing enough people into the country.

Here is something else that we ought to be talking about a little bit more. The number of people who come into this country or are sworn in as legal citizens goes up and down from year to year.

First of all, the last year available, a total of 969,000 new people were sworn in as immigrants in the United States. If you break it down in 4-year increments—things go up and down—at least back to the year 1910, there has never been a 4-year period when so many people from other countries were sworn in, in the United States. There is no reason to feel guilty if we turn these people around because, right now, a record number are coming here.

In that 4-year increment, there are a little bit over 800,000 people every year being sworn in. It is kind of interesting. If we go back and look at the 1960s, which I remember well, normally you were around 110,000 to 120,000. Therefore, we have gone up in the 1960s to swearing in about 110,000 new Americans, and now we are well over 800,000.

That is before we add in new people who are becoming citizens by birth-right citizenship. This is a new thing that barely existed in the 1960s or 1970s, but in which you may have mothers fly over here from China, have the baby in San Diego, and fly back, and that is another citizen, as well. We are kind of

changing America more quickly, in my opinion, than at any other time in our history.

In summary, when we view the border crisis, we are one more time at an all-time record for March. We are not being callous or cruel because we are at all-time records in the number of people who are coming here legally, as well. We are allowing over 100,000 Americans to die every year because of drug poisoning, and at least there is anecdotal evidence that the countries or the people bringing the fentanyl here want Americans to die. They have declared war on America, and their attitude is: The more Americans who die, the better.

There is also evidence that foreign countries are letting people out of their jails and into the United States, taking advantage of our weak and uncaring President, who apparently does not consider it a priority that over 100,000 people die and apparently doesn't see a problem with having other countries emptying their jails into the United States.

The border is the number one problem facing this country right now, and this body has no business taking up any other issues until the border is dealt with.

Now, one of my colleagues from Texas decided to address the situation in Israel, and I think there is a lack of a narrative being talked about there as well that ought to be addressed at this time.

People, such as my colleague, like to tear down Israel, say they have done something wrong, say they must stop fighting, and kind of imply all the way around it is not that nice or a good country. As a matter of fact, if there is one country Israel is probably more like than any other, it is the United States of America. One way we can see it is like the United States of America is that people from all over the country want to come there.

Indeed, I was recently at a mosque in my district, and they, with pride, pointed out that their sect of Islam had recently built a mosque in Israel, of all the places in the world that you would want to go.

There are many people who, with the whole world to go to, are trying to get into Israel.

When you read about the attacks last October, you may remember that some of the people who died were from Thailand, and some of the hostages taken were from Thailand. You might wonder: I didn't know there were so many Jewish people from Thailand. Actually, the reason people are going there from Thailand is because there is so much opportunity there and so much freedom there that, if you wanted to get a job anywhere in the world, people from Thailand or other places in Asia have decided to come a significant way around the world to work in Israel.

There were newspaper articles—we don't know what has become of it—but tens of thousands of people from Ecua-

dor apparently are thinking about coming halfway around the world and work in Israel. Why don't we ever hear about that?

There was a time a while back in which Israel began to embark on a, perhaps, two-state solution—something they regretted. In any event, at the time they did it, maps were drawn up so that people could move from one part or the other. Presumably Arabs would want to move to areas controlled by Arabs and Jews would want to move to areas controlled by Israel.

To their surprise, the Arabs who were living in Israel proper did not want to move. They would have rather lived in the new country or the new lines. They would have rather lived in Jewish Israel than in a new Arab State. Isn't that interesting?

Nevertheless, all we get is criticism about Israel. However, when push came to shove and you see where people want to live, people everywhere—be it in Asia, be it in South America, or be it in and around Israel—want to live in Israel and want to live in Israel more than a new country.

You look at it and say: Why aren't things better in Gaza? Has Israel done something wrong? In fact, Gaza has been a corrupt country. Foreign aid which flows into Gaza, particularly from Europe, winds up going to the leaders of Hamas, who may be living in Qatar and may be living in Turkiye and may be living in France.

Indeed, many of you know the name Yasser Arafat, who for many years was the voice of the Arabs in Israel. When he died with all the money that he got—I don't know why he got it all, obviously taking money, foreign aid from around the world—his ancestors got out of Gaza. They weren't going to spend money there. They got out of Israel. They are living in Paris, France, right now, another Western country, rather than living in the Arab parts of Israel.

Therefore, when people say Israel must call for a cease-fire or stop fighting, in fact, Israel is a very desirable country. They have every right to protect their country from horrible people who try to cut off the heads of little children. If anybody should surrender, it is Hamas who should surrender. They at any time, I am sure, could come out of their tunnels and say: We surrender. We are going to escort the Israeli Army through these tunnels so we see exactly what was here.

The war would end. Any killing would end.

Instead, people tell Israel they should stop fighting, and I think I know the reason for that. If you look at a parent and they have a 10-year-old child and a 4-year-old child fighting in the back seat of the car, which child do the parents address? They address the 10-year-old child because that is the older child and the more likely one to understand what is right or wrong.

I kind of think, when I see these protesters outside of this building every

day when we walk by them, that purport to care about the people of Gaza, they ask us to tell the Israelis to stop fighting. They don't have demonstrations to tell Hamas to stop fighting.

I think that is because they know, deep down inside, they want to treat Hamas like children and don't expect them to wake up and realize that their behavior is causing some civilians, innocent civilians, to be killed.

In any event, to summarize, everybody should remember: People from all around the world are trying to go to Israel, not just Jewish people, but people from Ecuador and people from Thailand. There are mosques of people from Islam who are apparently happy to live in Israel. You do not see Jewish temples in Gaza because that is not a country that naturally wants peace or is willing to live with people other than—or largely other Arabs.

In any event, I will call for Hamas to stop their fighting. If they care about their people, just step out of your tunnels and say: Here we are, Israel Army.

That will be the end of a war in which, sadly, too many civilians have died.

Now, the third critical issue that we should be addressing right now, and we have not talked about enough, is what I will call the war on the American family. I think it is probably the biggest issue facing America today.

The war on the American family started in earnest with the Great Society programs in the 1960s. The Great Society programs were programs in which material things were given to families, not always, but usually families without a man in the house. Sadly, there are ideologies which want to get rid of families in which you have a man in the house, families which are self-supporting.

The type of programs which are, not always, but usually available to households without a husband or a father around, are many. The big ones are the nutrition programs; very generous housing programs; healthcare programs; education programs, such as Pell grants; other cash programs, like the earned income tax credit.

All of these programs require that you not work too hard or make too much money in order to get these programs. All of these programs have in common that, if there is a man in the house making a relatively decent wage, that family is not considered in poverty, and they will not be eligible for their free low-income housing or free food or earned income tax credit, which can result in a check of 10 or \$15,000. You are not eligible for special cash benefits that go to parents with disabled children.

All the way across the board, we seem to be encouraging the breakdown of the family. Now, you may say: Oh, Glenn, family is like mom and apple pie. Everybody wants families.

However, that is not true. If you look at Karl Marx and his ilk, they believe

the key to destroying the West, including the United States, was getting rid of the American family.

More recently around here, we had the Black Lives Matter group. I realize not everybody who had a sign in their yard agreed with this, but the founders of the group did. They wanted to get rid of what they referred to as “the Western-prescribed nuclear family.” In other words, they viewed a family with a husband at home as being a problem.

I recently ran across a quote in a book that somebody gave me, and I just opened the book, and I came to a few lines which I think everybody in Congress ought to be aware of. The lines were from a woman by the name of Kate Millett, who, if you are my age, you frequently remember she was a very prominent feminist in the 1960s, the decade which really began to result in the decline of America. Her sister quoted her as saying that a goal of feminism should be destroying the American family.

Therefore, one more time, we run across not a huge number of people, but disproportionately influential people saying that a goal should be to weaken the family. Then you look at, one more time, President Biden proposing increases in programs, be it low-income housing programs, be it the earned income tax credit programs, be it the Pell grant programs, all of which are really made for families without a husband earning a decent salary at home. All these programs are being increased by President Biden.

In fact, what we ought to be doing is we ought to be doing the opposite. Right now, it is not surprising if a man is not in the house because, in some cases, his family would be materially better off without him being in the house.

In particular, some of the low-income housing projects, particularly section 42 projects, are new buildings which are superior to the buildings or superior to the rental units that American families are sometimes living in.

□ 1245

Of course, the healthcare programs designed for the poor people don't have sizable deductibles in them. In that regard, they are, in many ways, superior to the healthcare plans the working poor get.

There are programs, like I said, for college scholarships. I will recite, again, a quote from a gal I ran across when I talked about the marriage penalties in Wisconsin. I recited all the benefits that people were able to get if they didn't marry a man with a decent income, and I asked her what she thought about my speech. She told me: Well, I am married and have a child, but none of my friends are getting married. They get free college.

Here was another program, the Pell Grant Program, designed to encourage the breakdown of the American family.

It is important that when we go into the budget negotiations and the appro-

priations negotiations for the year beginning October 1, that our appropriators and leaders go to bat and say no more special benefits for making sure there is a man not in the house.

As a matter of fact, we should go backward because, not surprising after Lyndon Johnson—in my opinion, the worst President of the United States until Joe Biden came along. It is not surprising that what used to be called the out-of-wedlock rate has skyrocketed since the 1960s and with it a variety of problems that come with not having a father in the household.

It is time to look at these programs again and, rather than pay people to keep the husband out of the house, encourage people to have the father at home.

This is not just a material matter. It is a matter of it is better for the children to have a father at home, and it is better for the father himself to be at home.

As George Gilder points out, an author that I think we all ought to be reading, the number one person hurt by the war on the American family, be it Karl Marx's war or Lyndon Johnson's war, whatever you want to say, the number one problem is to men who now don't have a function in life.

If you look at certain areas of our society, it is the men who are more likely to do the drugs or commit the crimes. If they were a father with responsibilities at home, I think these crimes would happen a lot less. I think there would be less drinking. I think there would be less drug abuse. I think America would slowly work its way back to the more wholesome, less crime-ridden, less drug-ridden time of the 1960s.

I hope both parties pay attention to the impact of incentives or disincentives that their programs have on having men in the household.

In any event, there are three issues that we have dealt with today.

We have dealt with the border, where we hit record numbers and the fact that it has become apparent that we are not getting the best people. Apparently, other countries are emptying out their prisons.

We have dealt with what is going on in Israel and what a wonderful country it is as people from all around the world, including people who aren't Jewish, try to get into Israel. It is kind of like people from all around the world trying to get into our country, but ignoring this, they are still subject to criticism by people like the protesters outside or my predecessor here in Congress who just got done talking.

Finally, I hope the press and the Republican Party pay attention to the increase in benefits to families without a father at home that he wants to put in this budget, which I am sure if it was enacted would, again, push up the number of families in which, sadly, there is not a father at home to help raise the children.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 382.—An act to take certain land in the State of Washington into trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, April 19, 2024, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3825. A letter from the Chief, Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Farm Service Agency and Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Pandemic Assistance Programs and Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs [Docket ID: USDA-2021-0012] (RIN: 0503-AA75) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3826. A letter from the Chief, Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Farm Service Agency and Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage Payment; Conservation Reserve Program; Dairy Indemnity Payment Program; Marketing Assistance Loans, Loan Deficiency Payments, and Sugar Loans; and Oriental Fruit Fly Program [Docket ID: FSA-2021-0003] (RIN: 0560-AI59) April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3827. A letter from the Chief, Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Agricultural Disaster Indemnity Programs [Docket ID: FSA-2020-0011] (RIN: 0560-AI55) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3828. A letter from the Chief, Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Services, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) Programs [Docket ID: CCC-2022-0001] (RIN: 0560-AI63) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3829. A letter from the Chief, Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Agricultural Conservation Easement Program [Docket ID: NRCS-2019-0006] (RIN: 0578-AA66) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3830. A letter from the Chief, Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Regional Conservation Partnership

Program [Docket ID: NRCS-2019-0012] (RIN: 0578-AA70) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3831. A letter from the Regulation Coordination, Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Adult Protective Services Functions and Grant Programs (RIN: 0985-AA18) received April 10, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC-3832. A letter from the Legal Counsel, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule and interpretive guidance — Implementation of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (RIN: 3046-AB30) received April 15, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC-3833. A letter from the Assist General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Petroleum-Equivalent Fuel Economy Calculation [EERE-2021-VT-0033] (RIN: 1904-AF47) received April 11, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3834. A letter from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, Regulation Policy Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medical Devices; Quality System Regulation Amendments [Docket No.: FDA-2021-N-0507] (RIN: 0910-AH99) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3835. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Virginia; 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard Second Maintenance Plan for the Fredericksburg Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2023-0629; FRL-11261-02-R3] received April 12, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3836. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Cyflaniliprole; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0077; FRL-11855-01-OCSP] received April 12, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3837. A letter from the Regulatory and Policy Counsel, U.S. AbilityOne Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Supporting Competition in the AbilityOne Program (RIN: 3037-AA14) received April 11, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3838. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Update of the Communications Uses Program, Cost Recovery Fee Schedules, and Section 512 of FLPMA for Rights-of-Way [BLM—HQ—FRN—M04500175819] (RIN: 1004-AE60) received April 15, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3839. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation [BLM—HQ—FRN—M04500174370] (RIN: 1004-AE79) received April 11, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3840. A letter from the Manager, Branch of Listing and Policy Support, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-ES-2021-0107, FXES1111090FEDR-245-FF09E23000; Docket No.: 240325-0088] (RIN: 0648-BK47; 1018-BF95) received April 11, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3841. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Expanding the Fair Housing Testing Pool for FHIP and FHAP Funded Entities [Docket No.: FR-6355-F-02] (RIN: 2529-AB07) received April 8, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3842. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Major interim final rule — Individual Assistance Program Equity [Docket ID: FEMA-2023-0003] (RIN: 1660-AB07) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3843. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Major interim final rule — Individual Assistance Program Equity [Docket ID: FEMA-2023-0003] (RIN: 1660-AB07) received April 9, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3844. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Train Crew Size Safety Requirements [Docket No.: FRA-2021-0032] (RIN: 2130-AC88) received April 10, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3845. A letter from the Regulation Writer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's Major final rule — Expansion of the Rental Subsidy Policy for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Applicants and Recipients [Docket No.: SSA-2023-0010] (RIN: 0960-AI82) received April 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. VAN ORDEN (for himself, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 8060. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the notification of appropriate elected officials prior to the placement of refugees in a State; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. BICE, and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 8061. A bill to temporarily provide additional deposits into the Crime Victims Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 8062. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to strengthen control of the environmental impacts of surface coal mining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 8063. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army to posthumously award the Distinguished Service Cross to William D. Owens for his valorous actions from June 6, 1944, to June 8, 1944, during World War II at La Piere Bridge in Normandy, France, while serving with the 505th Parachute Infantry; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GRJALVA, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 8064. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of hearing aids and related hearing services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself and Mr. KILEY):

H.R. 8065. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, to carry out a program under which the Secretary requires each regulated seller of a highly infectious agent to comply with certain logbook requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. EMMER (for himself, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. WESTERMAN):

H.R. 8066. A bill to require a report on the United States supply of nitrocellulose; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 8067. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require additional information on math and clerical error notices; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. CLOUD, Ms. MACE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. OGLES, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 8068. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to exclude resources designated as an emergency requirement or any resources provided in supplemental appropriations laws from CBO baseline projections for discretionary appropriations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. GUEST (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 8069. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to encourage qualified individuals to enter the forensic pathology workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and

Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BACON, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. MACE, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. LUTTRELL, Ms. JACOBS, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. BANKS):

H.R. 8070. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HILL (for himself and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia):

H.R. 8071. A bill to amend the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978 to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHA-KOWSKY, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 8072. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to take certain actions to increase diversity of ownership in the broadcasting industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. GOODEN of Texas):

H.R. 8073. A bill to provide for a limitation on obligation and expenditure of funds for bilateral economic assistance to the Republic of El Salvador, the Republic of Guatemala, and the Republic of Honduras; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 8074. A bill to phase out production of nonessential uses of perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances, to prohibit releases of all perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Science, Space, and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia (for herself, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 8075. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of staff-assisted home dialysis for certain hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis patients and to ensure all patients are educated on modality options and receive the resources, information, and support to succeed on the modality of their choice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in

each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 8076. A bill to establish effluent limitations guidelines and standards and water quality criteria for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. ROSS (for herself and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 8077. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to address misuse of bankruptcy proceedings in cases of child sex abuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SHERRILL (for herself and Mr. BUCSHON):

H.R. 8078. A bill to authorize Federal support of States in piloting interoperable State-based repositories of sepsis cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. TITUS, Ms. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. GALLEGRO):

H.R. 8079. A bill to provide for water conservation, drought operations, and drought resilience at water resources development projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 8080. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish and implement a department-wide after-action program and a risk communication strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SELF (for himself, Mr. ROY, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. BRECHEEN, and Mr. OGLES):

H.J. Res. 129. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Departments of Labor, the Treasury, and Health and Human Services relating to "Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance and Independent, Noncoordinated Excepted Benefits Coverage"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROUZER (for himself, Mr. FLOOD, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Ms. ROSS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEEMER, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. WILD, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. MCGARVEY, and Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H. Res. 1157. A resolution recognizing linemen, the profession of linemen, the contributions of these brave men and women who protect public safety, and expressing support for the designation of April 18, 2024, as "National Lineman Appreciation Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. EZELL (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. GUEST, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. LALOTA, Mr.

GIMENEZ, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. AMO, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MAGAZINER, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H. Res. 1158. A resolution recognizing the anniversary of the establishment of the United States Naval Construction Force, known as the "Seabees", and the tremendous sacrifices and contributions by the Seabees who have fought and served on behalf of our country; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SORENSEN (for himself and Mr. LUCAS):

H. Res. 1159. A resolution recognizing the longstanding partnership between USDA and NASA and encouraging further interagency collaboration; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. VAN ORDEN:

H.R. 8060.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 4

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the notification of appropriate elected officials prior to the placement of refugees in a State.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 8061.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To temporarily provide additional deposits into the Crime Victims Fund.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 8062.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Legislating

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 8063.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Army medal

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 8064.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the power of Congress to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States).

The single subject of this legislation is: to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of hearing aids and related hearing services.

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 8065.

H.R. 7986: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 7924: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 7937: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. MILLS.
 H.R. 7959: Mr. MCCAUL.
 H.R. 7977: Mr. FALLON.
 H.R. 8012: Mrs. LESKO.
 H.R. 8038: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HILL, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.
 H.J. Res. 122: Mr. LAWLER.
 H. Res. 376: Mr. GROTHMAN and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
 H. Res. 1019: Mr. WALBERG, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. FITZGERALD.
 H. Res. 1124: Ms. STANSBURY.
 H. Res. 1152: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. COLE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 8034, the “Israel Security Supplemental Ap-

propriations Act, 2024”, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. COLE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 8035, the “Ukraine Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024”, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. COLE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 8036, the “Indo-Pacific Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024”, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Rules in H.R. 8038, the 21st Century Peace Through Strength Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. JORDAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 8038, the 21st Century Peace Through Strength Act, do not contain any congressional ear-

marks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Foreign Affairs in H.R. 8038, the 21st Century Peace Through Strength Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. MCHENRY

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Financial Services in H.R. 8038, the Peace Through Strength Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF ALABAMA

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Armed Services in H.R. 8038, the 21st Century Peace Through Strength Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF MISSOURI

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Ways and Means in H.R. 8038 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.